

2002 Annual Report Executive Summary

North Delta Mississippi Enterprise Community

The Year 2002 was notable for North Delta Mississippi Enterprise Community. With community input still at the root of our cause, we continue carrying our monthly meetings to the community, rotating from Panola to Quitman to Tallahatchie counties, respectively. And though the numbers in attendance have decreased, we still receive input and inquiries into EC activity from community folk and continue to partner and offer letters of support to local non-profits, county and city government to ensure that all private, federal and state funding and monetary pools are being accessed. And even though many needs are being addressed, many still do exist. This year much of the focus in the EC area was the development of infrastructure through water and sewer; safety through securing police cars and fire trucks; and housing through senior citizen complexes and housing rehab programs. Our daily work at the EC is still plentiful and our mission anew, united by our commitment to provide a catalyst to empower communities to become independent and to improve lifestyles and living conditions. The programmatic work at-hand includes Fair Housing Education and Outreach, Community Training, and Partnering and Collaboration. We were just awarded our second Housing Preservation Grant through USDA-Rural Development to repair/renovate six houses in the tri-county area. We continue to operate synergistically with four staff persons: Robert Avant, Administrator; Cheryl James, Community/FHIP Coordinator; Verna Lasha Hunter, Secretary; and Julius Harris, FHIP Paralegal/Outreach Coordinator. There has been activity recorded on practically every Benchmark through partnerships, collaborations, or EC driven projects.